

Variant 2**READING****TEXT 1**

1. Read the article and decide if the statements (1–10) are True (T) or False (F).

- 1) The Beatles are more popular today than ever.
- 2) The “Oasis” have recently copied a Beatles’ song.
- 3) The Beatles once filled Japan’s Budokan stadium.
- 4) There is a Beatles Festival every year in the USA.
- 5) Paul McCartney lived in Penny Lane when he was a teenager.
- 6) Penny Lane is in Liverpool.
- 7) The Beatles always wrote their own songs.
- 8) In Britain, the Beatles are forgotten.
- 9) Not many people go to Liverpool every year, to see where it all began.
- 10) They became popular because they caught the spirit of a generation.

THE BEATLES – STILL GOING STRONG

Although they broke up almost 50 years ago, the Beatles are still one of the most popular rock groups in the world! During the six years of their existence, they led a revolution in music. Half a century later, their records still sell in millions every year.

- In 2014, Hollywood is making a big new documentary film about the Beatles.... almost 50 years after they broke up!

- In 2013, a “new” Beatles album, “On air live at the BBC – part 2” was the group’s 31st top album in the USA!

- In 1996, six million Beatles albums were sold during the year. That would be a good score for a functioning band or group; but for a group that last played together in 1970, it was incredible!

- In Britain, a study recently showed that the Beatles are still one of the most popular groups with people over 15 years old; and they are still popular with teenagers too.

All over the world, teenagers know the tunes, and often some of the words too, of the Beatles’ most famous songs; Yesterday, Penny Lane, Hey Jude and When I am Sixty Four are among the best known.

Among more recent pop groups, many big names – such as Oasis, Blur or Foo Fighters – owe a lot to the Beatles, and they say so! In their album the Masterplan, Oasis did a new version of the Beatles' song “I am the Walrus”.



However, there are also dozens of bands all over the world which do nothing but copy the Beatles. There is a band in England called the Bootleg Beatles, a band in America called the 'Fab Four', a Norwegian band called 'Det Betales', and even a band called Museum in Kazakhstan; and there are many more too!

The Bootleg Beatles now do over 100 shows a year and they always bring in big audiences! Once, they filled the 10,000 seat Budokan stadium in Japan!

There are also dozens of Beatles conventions and Beatles weekends every year, in different parts of the world. The annual Beatle Fest in America (founded in 1974) attracts 20,000 fans each year!

In Britain, the Beatles are still a big tourist attraction. Thousands of people go to Liverpool every year, to see where it all began. In Liverpool, they can visit the Beatles' museum, take a "Beatles' Tour" of the city (seeing places like Penny Lane), or visit the house where Paul McCartney lived as a teenager.

So why did the Beatles become so popular in the sixties, and why are they still so popular today?

They became popular because they caught the spirit of a generation. Sixties teenagers were very different from fifties teenagers; they wanted to change things, and escape from the rather dull fifties. The Beatles came along, offering a new type of music, with new instruments (electric guitars). They were not the only group, of course; but they were the best, the most original. At first they copied rock 'n' roll songs from America. These were not well-known in England at the time, but it was easy to get rock 'n' roll records in Liverpool, a busy port city at the time. Sailors brought the most popular records from America, and these became popular with young musicians in Liverpool. Then the Beatles began writing their own songs – and people liked them.

When they became popular, they did not stop doing new things; instead, they pushed back the frontiers of pop/rock music in all directions. And where they went, others followed.

Today people are still following them; and probably they will continue following for a long time to come.



TEXT 2

2. The people below all want to go on a short trip. Decide which place (letters A–H) would be the most suitable for each person or the group of people (numbers 1–5).

- 1) Ray and three of his friends would like to spend a whole weekend driving around in nice scenery and enjoying some of the local food.
- 2) Phil and Adam want to go on a comfortable trip which takes them quickly to an interesting city. Then they want to enjoy at least two days of sightseeing.
- 3) Mike, Kathy and their three children don't have much money, but they want a special day out this Saturday. They must be back home by 9 p.m.
- 4) Kirsten is a Dutch student who is studying in Scotland. She doesn't drive, but wants a day trip to see some beautiful scenery and spend a little time by the sea.
- 5) Clare and Robert want to enjoy some good food, but would also like to give their two young children a day to remember. They don't mind if they spend a lot of money.

A Marine Life, France

The chance to experience the oceans of the world. Children will love the observatory, with water all around them and enormous fish swimming above their heads! Afterwards you eat at a world-famous local restaurant before boarding the ferry at 9 p.m. Not cheap, but a great day out!

B Amsterdamer

Sail out in the evening and enjoy over 12 hours in the Netherlands, returning the following night. After a good Dutch breakfast you travel by train direct to the heart of the wonderful city of Amsterdam. The sightseeing and places to shop will make this a day to remember. Weekends only.

C Ireland by Car

Once you arrive in Ireland you're quickly on beautiful country roads, with friendly villages where you can stop for a delicious bite to eat. The special price allows you to take your car and up to five people away for 48 hours, and two nights' hotel accommodation can be arranged for a little extra.

D French Hypermarket Day Trip

Whether you want to buy or just look, you'll love this tour. The enormous Darney shopping centre is a shopper's dream! You will find a great number of local goods on sale, and clothes and kitchen goods are excellent value. Free children's entertainment all day. Leaves 10:00, back at 19:00.

E Shop Till You Drop

For good value shopping, take our newest cruise-ferry and you needn't even get off! Leaving at 11 a.m., our duty-free shopping centre, more a floating department store than an on-board shop, opens at midday. We're back by 4 p.m. Sorry, only four people per ticket.

F Belgium by Hydrofoil

A four-day trip. From England you cross to Belgium in just 100 minutes by hydrofoil! You are served food and drinks during the crossing, then continue your journey to Brussels, or another beautiful city, on the fast Belgian railway network.

G A Taste of the Good Life in France

After a relaxing voyage, you visit a beautiful area which is famous for its good things to eat. There you can enjoy some sightseeing and choose from a number of wonderful restaurants. Sail back on the night crossing. Sorry, adults only!

H Sea and Mountains in Northern Ireland

Explore the Northern Ireland countryside, including the amazing Mountains of Mourne and the small seaside holiday town of Newcastle. The ferry leaves the port in Scotland at 7:30 and arrives back at 22:20. Transport in Northern Ireland is by air-conditioned coach.

VOCABULARY AND GRAMMAR**3. Choose the correct item (A, B, C or D).**

- 1) Your car isn't here. It _____ the garage.
 - A. has taken
 - B. has been taken
 - C. was taken to
 - D. takes

- 2) Do you think that jacket was designed _____ a famous fashion designer?
 - A. at
 - B. of
 - C. with
 - D. by



- 3) That ring _____ to my mother by my father.
A. was given
B. is given
C. will have been given
D. will give
- 4) My application for a loan was turned _____.
A. by the bank down
B. away by the bank
C. off by the bank
D. down by the bank
- 5) It became a _____ and stayed at number one in the charts for ten weeks.
A. masterpiece
B. bestseller
C. song
D. hit
- 6) Harry Potter is the biggest children's _____ this century.
A. blockbuster
B. bestseller
C. hit
D. artwork
- 7) The trouble with all these _____ movies is that they have lots of special effects and little real acting.
A. blockbuster
B. drama
C. cartoon
D. comedy
- 8) It's such a/an _____ piece of music. I cry every time I hear it.
A. surprising
B. outstanding
C. moving
D. impressive
- 9) It's _____! It must be the funniest show on TV.
A. hilarious
B. breathtaking
C. exciting
D. nice





- 10) The actor gave _____ performance. It was perhaps the only time we will ever see that play performed so well.
- A. a classic
 - B. an outstanding
 - C. an old-fashioned
 - D. a spectacular

TRANSLATION

4. Translate the sentences from English into Russian.

- 1) There are sleeping cars and dining cars which make even the longest journey enjoyable.
- 2) Speed, comfort and safety are the main advantages of trains and planes.
- 3) Large ships and small river boats can visit foreign countries and different places of interest within their own country.
- 4) I prefer fantastic films, though I enjoy documentaries almost as much, to say nothing of animated cartoons films, news-reels or popular science films.
- 5) It is a good idea that those who are late are not allowed to enter the hall until the news-reel is over. I hate being disturbed when a film is on.
- 6) There are a lot of types of entertainments: reading books, magazines, newspapers, surfing the Internet, watching movies and television, listening to the radio and recordings.
- 7) What food would you recommend to somebody visiting your country for the first time?
- 8) Let's make lasagna for the dinner party tomorrow. – Great idea! How much minced meat do we need?
- 9) Fish and chip is a hot dish of English origin, consisting of battered fish, commonly Atlantic cod, and chips.
- 10) Commercial sale of genetically modified food began in 1994, when Calgene first marketed its delayed-ripening tomato.

WRITING

5. Write a letter to your friend (100–120 words) about your holiday in Britain.



Variant 2**READING****TEXT 1**

1. Read the article about the problems of our planet below. Choose the most suitable heading from the list A–F for each part (1–5). There is one extra heading you do not need to use.

- | | |
|-------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| A. A watery grave | D. Nature can heal itself |
| B. Running out of time | E. No trees – no life |
| C. Choking to death | F. We can do it! |

We have spent thousands of years fighting for our survival. Yet now we have discovered that our planet is under threat and, to make matters worse, it's all our fault.

1 _____

The rainforests are dying, rare plant and animal species are disappearing, rivers and seas are being contaminated, crops are failing to grow, people are dying of hunger and the air is being polluted. It's time we woke up to these problems and started repairing the damage.

2 _____

One of the major problems is the destruction of the rainforests in South America. They are home to half the world's species and to millions of people. Moreover, the rainforests clean the air by absorbing carbon dioxide and giving out oxygen. The trees are being cut down for paper or to make room for cattle farms. As a result, birds and animals lose their homes and die. This destruction is also bringing about changes in the climate, air pollution, flooding, drought and famine. If we continue to burn and cut down the rainforests as we are doing now, the earth will never be the same again.

3 _____

Another big problem is water pollution. Do you like swimming in the sea or drinking a cool glass of water on a hot day? These simple pleasures may soon become a thing of the past. Factories are polluting our rivers and lakes with dangerous chemicals. Oil tankers are releasing thick, black oil into our oceans. Tons and tons of industrial and domestic waste are poured into our seas. Consequently, sea life is threatened with extinction.

4 _____

Air pollution is another important issue. The cars and factories in and around our cities are giving off dangerous fumes. In the past few years, more and more people than ever before have developed allergies and breathing

problems. If we don't do something now, our cities will become impossible to live in.

5 _____

Fortunately, it is not too late to solve these problems. We have the time, the money and even the technology to prepare the way for a better, cleaner and safer future. We can plant trees and adopt animals. We can create parks for endangered species. We can put pressure on those in power to take action. Together we can save our planet. All we need to do is open our eyes and act immediately.

TEXT 2

2. Read the text below. Decide whether the statements (1–10) are True (T) or False (F).

- 1) First books survived until the present day.
- 2) The earliest books of the ancient world were written on eucalyptus leaves.
- 3) By the time, of the Middle Ages all books were ugly.
- 4) All people could read the books.
- 5) First printing was invented in China.
- 6) Books were popular in ancient Italy
- 7) There were many bookshops.
- 8) The first public library was founded in Rome about 30 B.C.
- 9) The slaves could buy books.
- 10) Slaves copied books from important libraries.

THE PRINTED WORD

In Greece and Rome the earliest books were written on tablets of wood or pieces of bark covered with wax, and writing was possible upon them with a small stick called “stylus”. In Assyria and Babylonia clay tablets were used for writing and the words were drawn with a piece of wood. After baking, the tablets were kept on shelves. They were long-lasting and some of them survived until the present day.

The earliest books of the ancient world were written on papyrus and skins of young animals. These books took the form of a long strip, roiled from one cylinder to another. Though paper has been known in China since the first century, the secret of papermaking came to Europe much later.

Books were popular in ancient Rome: there were many booksellers and the first public library was founded there about 39 B.C. Only the rich could buy books or make their slaves copy books from important libraries.

By the time, of the Middle Ages all books were handwritten, beautifully decorated, but they were often chained to the shelves. But only few people could read them.

First printing was invented in China and by the end of the 15th century there were more than 200 presses in Europe. The early printers were not only craftsmen but also editors, publishers and booksellers. The first printing, press in England was set up by William Caxton at Westminster in 1476 and the first printing press in Russia – by Ivan Fedorov in Moscow in 1564.

Early libraries were used only by scientists but lately they were used by the public. In the 19th century a proper system of public libraries appeared. Now most countries have their own national libraries.

VOCABULARY & GRAMMAR

3. Choose the correct item A, B, C or D.

- 1) Pesticides are chemicals that are used to kill _____ insects, vegetation, rodents or other species.
 - A. unwanted
 - B. useful
 - C. rare
 - D. dead

- 2) Green tourism is a type of tourism that is _____ to the environment.
 - A. rare
 - B. similar
 - C. kind
 - D. evil

- 3) People can collect the sun's _____ with solar panels.
 - A. power
 - B. rays
 - C. light
 - D. energy

- 4) Land _____ has many causes.
 - A. polluted
 - B. pollution
 - C. polluting
 - D. polute



- 5) She did not _____ fame as a writer because she published her works anonymously.
- A. build
 - B. receive
 - C. make
 - D. got
- 6) Using someone's first name before the person gives _____ can also be very rude.
- A. mission
 - B. permissive
 - C. permission
 - D. permit
- 7) The Japanese are usually very _____, and you address them in the same way that they address you.
- A. formal
 - B. former
 - C. formality
 - D. informal
- 8) Performances and exhibitions are usually very well _____.
- A. attendance
 - B. attendant
 - C. attending
 - D. attended
- 9) The national and state _____ have traditionally supported the arts with money.
- A. governmental
 - B. governments
 - C. governess
 - D. govern
- 10). Dolphins are _____.
- A. fish
 - B. reptiles
 - C. mammals
 - D. artiodactyles



TRANSLATION

4. Translate the sentences from English into Russian.

- 1) Gas and oil are both fossil fuels and contribute to the Greenhouse Effect and to acid rain when they are burnt. They are not, however, as damaging as coal.
- 2) Every time we leave a light on unnecessarily, or forget to turn the television off, we are needlessly contributing both to the Greenhouse Effect and acid rain.
- 3) Although nuclear energy does not produce greenhouse gases, it is very expensive and difficult to make it safe.
- 4) If forests continue to decline, deserts will continue to gain ground.
- 5) The result of the deforestation is easy to predict: more famine, more poverty, and more dependence of the Third World on the handouts from the developed countries.
- 6) While a telephone is a two-way communication device, mass media refer to media which can communicate a message to a large group, often simultaneously.
- 7) However, the modern cell phone is no longer a single-use device.
- 8) Most cell phones are equipped with Internet access and capable of connecting to the web, which itself is a mass medium.
- 9) Improvisation has been a consistent feature of theatre in the sixteenth century.
- 10) Stagecraft is a generic term referring to the technical aspects of theatrical, film, and video production.

WRITING

5. Write an essay about what is done in your town to save environment from the pollution. Talk about the problems of your region/town and the ways (your suggestions) to solve these problems. Write not less than 200 words.